of Urban Slums (EIUS), National Slum Development Programme, 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments for empowering Local Bodies, Repeal of Urban Land Ceiling Act (ULCA), National Housing Policy etc. as also involvement of private sector in resource mobilisation for housing and urban infrastructure projects.

Administrative Irregularities in DOP

422. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of letters written by the Members of Parliament relating to the alleged purchases of crores of rupees and several other administrative irregularities in the Directorate of Printing are yet to be replied by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of information regarding all such letters which have been received by the concerned officers since October, 1999 onwards and till date, date-wise;

(c) whether suitable replies of the same have since been furnished in stipulated time; and

(d) what is the status of various aspects highlighted in the aforesaid letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Replies to all the letters writtern by Members of Parliament relating to purchases and other administrative irregularities in the Directorate of Printing have since been furnished.

(d) Status of various aspects highlighted in the aforesaid letters are given in the Statement.

Statement

Status of the Issues Highlighted

(1) Non-Utilization of System-272 of Monotype U.K.

The system-272 of Montoype U.K. was pruchased in the year 1983. It has become obsolete due to change in the printing technology and non-availability of spare parts. The System has been declared unserviceable.

(2) Two envelope making machines and accessories at Govt. of India Press, Aligarh and Nashik were purchased through DGS & D:

Two envelope making machines and other accessories were purchased through DGS & D. The machines remained idle for sometime due to non-installation/commissioning by authorised representatives of M/s David Carlow U.K. Subsequently, these machines were installed and now are in productive use, in the Presses. The case has been referred to C.B.I. for further investigation.

(3) Machinery and equipment were purchased in the year 1988-89 at Govt. of India Press, Minto Road:

The machinery and equipment were purchased in the year 1988-89 for modernisation of Govt. of India Press, Minto Road, who caters the requirement of Parliament. The equipment installed are working satisfactorily and the jobs of both the Houses of Parliament and other Departments/Ministry are being executed.

(4) Four Nos. Miller Germany (Size 23×5/8"×37) double colour perfect sheetfed offset machines:

These machines were purchased in the year 1987 and are in use for day to day production of Parliament papers and other jobs of Ministries/Departments. There is no proposal to replace them as they are giving satisfactory production.

(5) Printing of JPC Report through a private printing Press, i.e. P.S. Press Services Okhla, N.D.:

For getting the job printed by the Ministries/Departments, the NOCs are issued after examining case by case with the approval of the Ministry of Urban Development. Printing of JPC Report was neither entrusted to the Directorate of Printing, nor we have any knowledge about its printing through a private Press.

(6) Procurement/purchase of paper:

The Directorate of Printing procures printing paper on the basis of average consumption during the previous three years and also keeping in mind the necessity for maintaining the stock for eight months requirement. The paper is procured with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(7) Press Pool Accommodation allotted to Joint Director (Admn.) in the Directorate of Printing:

The said Type IV accommodation has been allotted to the Joint Director (A) in the Directorate of Printing with the approval of the competent authority after following the rules in the matter.

(8) Complaint of widow of deceased employee Govt. of India Press, Minto Road:

The police authorities *vide* their communication number 3091-SHO/T-Rd dated 25.11.99 have reported that the complaint of Smt. Rita Rani has been inquired into and no cognizable offence has been found. Therefore, after conducting inquiries the complaint/affidavit of Smt. Rita Rani has been filed as per law.

(9) Transfer of Sh. K. Mohan Rao, Asstt. Manager (Admn.), Govt. of India Press, Minto Road:

In reply to Rajya Sabha U.S.Q. No. 76 for 29.11.99, it was mentioned that an anonymous complaint dated 29.8.90 was received alleging that Sh. K. Mohan Rao, then working as Asstt. Manager (Admn.) in the Govt. of India Press, Faridabad had submitted a false Transfer T.A. Claim. His claim was not admitted by the Competent Authority. The matter was investigated and on the basis of preliminary inquiry it was decided to refer the case to CVC for advice. Referring the case of CVC does not mean that the charge has been proved against him. The charge is held as proved only after completion of disciplinary proceedings and a final decision has been taken by the Competent Disciplinary Authority. Sh. K. Mohan Rao is neither the Disciplinary Authority nor Vigilance Officer in the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road. He has to discharge the normal functions of Asstt. Manager (Admn.) irrespective of his place of posting.

(10) Complaint against Joint Director (Admn.) in the Directorate of Printing:

It was intimated that a communication No. 3091 SHO/T/Rd. dated 25.11.99 was received from the Tuglak Road Police Station, New Delhi stating that complaint/affidavit of Smt. Rita Rani (widow of an ex-employee of Govt. of India Press, Minto Road) was received in that Police Station on 8.8.97. Inquiries were conducted and it was found that no cognizible offence was made out. Therefore, the said complaint/affidavit of Smt. Rita Rani has been filed accordingly as per law.

(11) Continuance of the Asstt. Manager (Admn.) in the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road:

It was intimated that Sh. K. Mohan Rao presently posted as Asstt. Manager (A). in the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi is discharging his prescribed duties. The Asstt. Manager (A) is neither Head of Administration

nor the Disciplinary Authority in respect of Press employees. The Manager of Govt. of India Press, acts as the Head of Office and Disciplinary Authority in respect of the employees of the concerned Press and as such all decisions are taken by him and Sh. K. Mohan Rao act as per his directions. Any employees aggrieved by his decision can apply to Director of Printing and thereafter, can approach the Ministry of Urban Development for relief. Mere reference of a case against Shri Rao to the Central Vigilance Commission does not indicate that charge against him has been proved. The charges are taken to be proved only after the concerned Disciplinary Authority takes a final view after completion of the relevant procedure as laid down in the CCS (CCA) Rules.

(12) Phototype Setting System-6 in the G.I.P., Minto Road:

The Hon'ble Member of Parliament was intimated that the Annual Maintenance Contracts for the Phototype Setting System-6 in the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road had to be awarded as there is no in house facility to maintain the said System. Open tenders were called for every year which were advertised in the Newspapers and Indian Trade Journal. A number of firms responded to these tenders. Technical suitability of the firms was examined by the Purchase Committee/Technical Committee/Committee of Managers in the Directorate of Printing. M/s. APM Sales Corporation was found to be technically suitable for maintaining the said System. On the Technical advice of Directorate of Printing the Annual Maintenance Contracts were finalised with the approval of the financial wing of the Ministry. The Phototype Setting System-6 is not lying idle. It was also intimated that the issue regarding Annual Service and Maintenance Contract for the Phototype Setting System-6 was replied to in the Rajya Sabha *vide* Unstarred Question No. 626 on 6.12.99.

(13) Machinery/Equipment installed in various Presses during 1992—96:

The Hon'ble Member of Parliament intimated that the list of machinery furnished by him was actually the Annexure to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 114 for 6.12.99. This list included all kinds of machinery that are used for pre-printing, printing and post-printing in the various Govt. of India Presses. All these equipments are being used for printing of material of the indenting Ministries/Departments including Parliament.

A report on this matter was also furnished to Cabinet Secretariat.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.